

## Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /125 W  
----- 005599

R 070332 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7184

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2125

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KE, MI, MA, MP, LT, BC, NG

SUBJECT: HIGH LEVEL ROK MISSION TO EAST AFRICA

REF: A. SEOUL 2065 NOTAL, B. SEOUL 2123 NOTAL, C. SEOUL 2124  
NOTAL D. SEOUL 2126 NOTAL

SUMMARY: FORMER PRIME MINISTER PAEK TOO CHIN WILL LEAD ROK MISSION  
TO EAST AFRICA TO PRESENT ROK VERSION  
OF SOUTH- NORTH DIALOGUE DEVELOPMENTS AND TO SOLICIT  
SUPPORT FOR ROK IN UN ISSUES. THREE HIGH LEVEL MISSIONS  
WILL TRAVE FOR SAME PURPOSES TO WEST AFRICA, TO SELECTED  
EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES, AND TO SOUTHEAST  
ASIA. END SUMMARY.

1. ROK IS SENDING HIGH LEVEL MISSION TO SEVEN EAST AFRICAN  
COUNTRIES. MISSION WILL BE LED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER  
AND FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER, PAEK TOO CHIN. THE  
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MISSION IS ONE OF FOUR BEING FANNED OUT TO ADVANCE ROK POSITIONS IN CONTEXT OF RIVALRY WITH NORTH KOREA. IN PART RESPONSIVE TO NORTH KOREAN TRAVELING MISSIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACTIVE ABROAD IN RECENT WEEKS, ROK MISSIONS WILL ( A ) PRESENT ROK VERSION OF SOUTH- NORTH DIALOGUE DEVELOPMENTS AND ( B ) SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR ROK POSITION ON KOREAN QUESTION IN WHA MAY 7 AND UNGA IN SEPTEMBER.

2. PAEK WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY ROK AMBASSADOR TO KENYA PAEK IN HAN. MISSION'S ITINERARY IS: KENYA, APRIL 15-19; MAURITIUS, APRIL 19-24; SWAZILAND, APRIL 24-28; LESOTHO, APRIL 30- MAY 2; BOTSWANA, MAY 3-7; AND MALAWI, MAY 9-13.

3. VISIT TO MAURITIUS WAS INCLUDED TO MAKE UP FOR CANCELLATION OF EARLIER MISSION TO PORT LOUIS BY AMBASSADOR CHOI. MAURITIUS DID NOT CONCUR IN CHOI VISIT ON GROUNDS PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE OUT OF COUNTRY DURING DATES PROPOSED. ACCORDING TO MOFA, ALL VISITS BY PAEK MISSION HAVE BEEN AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE BY THE COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED. MISSION WILL NOT GO TO MALAGASY, WHICH ALSO CANCELLED CHOI MISSION AND WHICH ACCORDING TO MOFA IS NOT INTERESTED IN RECEIVING A ROK DELEGATION AT THIS TIME.

4. THE MISSION WILL ALSO BE EXAMINING LOCAL SITUATIONS WITH VIEW TO MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO ROKG ON ( A ) WHETHER AND WHERE ROK SHOULD RETAIN ROK AMBASSADORS IF RELATIONS ARE ESTABLISHED WITH NORTH KOREA, AND ( B ) FUTURE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ROK MIGHT UNDERTAKE IN AFRICA.

5. PAEK TOO CHIN WAS ACTING PRIME MINISTER IN THE LATTER STAGES OF THE KOREAN WAR AND HAS HAD A VARIETY OF PUBLIC POSITIONS SINCE THEN. HE WAS PRIME MINISTER UNDER PRESIDENT PARK FROM DECEMBER 1971 UNTIL JULY 1972 WHEN HE BECAME SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHICH WAS DISSOLVED IN OCTOBER OF THAT YEAR. IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR HE WAS SELECTED LEADER OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHO WERE UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION NOMINATED BY THE PRESIDENT ( ONE- THIRD OF THE MEMBERSHIP). THIS GROUP CALLS ITSELF THE REVITALIZATION GROUP AND FOR MANY PURPOSES IS FUNCTIONING AS A SECOND PRO- GOVT PARTY IN THE ASSEMBLY. PAEK SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**TAGS:** PFOR, BC, KE, KS, LT, MA, MI, MP, NG  
**To:** BLANTYRE  
EA  
GABORONE  
KAMPALA  
MASERU  
MBABANE  
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